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NORTH &  
WESTERN L.L.P.**  
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THE TEAM APPROACH TO PREMIER PERFORMANCE

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

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(1938-1999)

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ORIGINALLY FILED**



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

JUN 10 2002

Sir:

Technology Center 2100

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 list of 1 reference submitted for consideration.
- ☒ Legible copy of the listed reference or their relevant portions.
- ☐ All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:

- ☐ Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the identified prior application which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

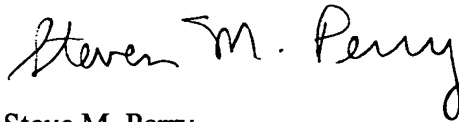
In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

- \_\_\_ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).
- \_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_ in the amount of \$ (amount in § 1.17(p)) constituting the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Statement meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0100 of the undersigned.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve M. Perry  
Customer No. 20551  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 45,357  
Docket No. T9407.NP  
Application Ser. No. 10/081,742  
**THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, L.L.P.**  
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U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/081,742  
DOCKET NO. T9407.NP

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Rick G. Craig et al  
SERIAL NO.: 10/081,742  
FILED: 02/22/2002  
CONFIRM. NO.: 9419  
FOR: NETWORKED REFERRAL  
COMMISSION SYSTEM  
ART UNIT: 2161  
EXAMINER:  
DOCKET NO.: T9407.NP

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this  
correspondence is being deposited  
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Service as First Class Mail, postage  
prepaid, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on  
the date indicated below and is  
addressed to Assistant  
Commissioner of Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231.

*Steven M. Perry*  
Attorney

5/24/02  
Date of Deposit

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to:

  X   37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1) or (3), within three months of the filing date of the application, or before a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c), after a first office action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p); or

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d), after a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by both 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each listed reference (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is also enclosed.

For all listed references that are not either in the English language, or accompanied by a translation into English, a concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

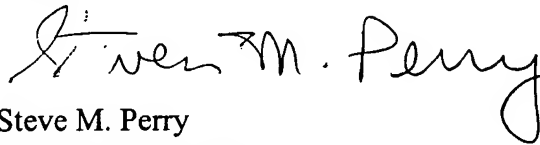
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Page 3

is enclosed attached to each.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002.

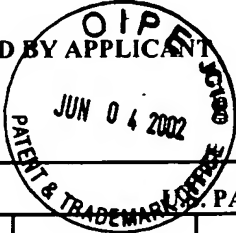
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve M. Perry". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Steve M. Perry  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 45,357

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SMP:ll

PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. T9407.NP		SERIAL NO. 10/081,742	
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> 				APPLICANT Rick G. Craig et al		<b>COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED</b>	
				FILING DATE 02/22/2002		GROUP 2161	

PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO		
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							
AQ							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
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AS		
AT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.